The Southern PATRIOT

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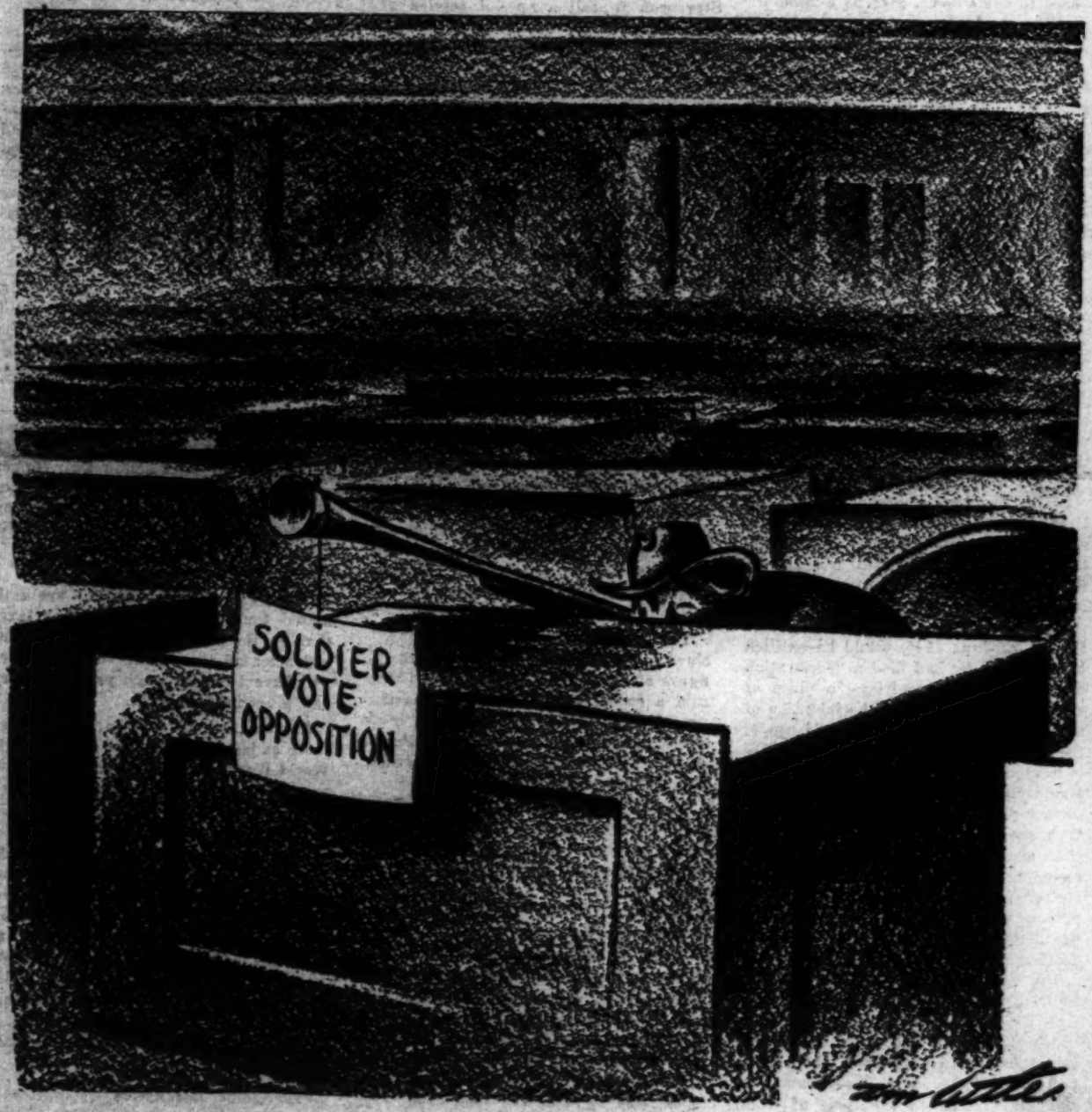
RANK(IN) FOXHOLE



—Reprinted from Cartoon in NASHVILLE TENNESSEAN Entitled "Washington Foxhole."

Register • Pay Your Poll Tax • Vote!

TRENDS

In 1936, before the Wage & Hour Act took effect, Washington Shirt Co., Nashville, was paying its employees as little as $3.25 for a 60-hour week, and giving its employees expensively bound Bibles for Christmas presents.

"At Christmas time," said one of the former employees, "the old man used to come down, give us a Bible and a bath towel, and cut our wages."

In 1938 there was a lockout and bitter struggle by the employees to organize a local of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers. To avoid compliance with a labor board order to engage in collective bargaining with its workers, the company changed its name to the Southern Manufacturing Co. One of the leaders of the shirt workers in their efforts to organize was Ed Blair.

Young Blair has continued his efforts in behalf of his fellow workers and represented ACWA at Columbia, Tenn., where the workers won a NLRB election 134 to 74, at the Dixie plant No. 2, one of the old Washington Co. shirt plants. G. L. Hedrick, general manager of the Dixie plant was supt. of the Nashville Washington plant at the time of the lockout.

* * *

State Senator Aubrey Weaver, of Front Royal, Va., not satisfied with present poll tax restrictions on Virginians, on Feb. 2 introduced Bill No. 106 in the Virginia Senate to further limit the right of suffrage. Under the provisions of his bill no one entering Virginia after the 1st of Jan., 1945, would be entitled to vote until he had filed a "declaration of intention" of acquiring "a place of abode in this State with the intention of establishing his permanent residence in the county or city in which such place is located, and also with the intention of abandoning as his place of residence any former place of residence established by such person elsewhere." The declaration must contain certain information including race and occupation. A filing fee of 25c would be charged and the person would not be eligible to vote "until one year after the filing of such declaration."

The Virginia Committee for Constitutional Rights is fighting the bill.

* * *

The Mississippi House of Representatives has passed a bill to abolish the poll tax for soldiers. To opponents of the bill who raised the issue of white supremacy, Chairman F. D. Hewitt of the House Elections Committee said, "The poll tax will be repealed after the war anyway."

The Texas Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax, with chapters in Houston, Austin, Texas City, Port Arthur, El Paso, and organizing committees in Dallas, San Antonio, Waco, is doing a bang-up job.

In a poll of 1,000 service men and women conducted by the Committee, 955 favored passage of the Worley-Green-Lucas federal soldier vote bill; 21 were opposed; and 24 indifferent.

The Texas Committee and the American Legion of Texas are pressing Gov. Stevenson to call a special session of the legislature to wipe out the poll tax and provide for soldier voting.

* * *

The Christian American Association, sponsors of the "Pappy" O'Daniel anti-labor bill that passed the 1943 Arkansas legislature, is back in the ring with a proposed amendment to the Arkansas Constitution outlawing the closed shop.

A 4-col. ad in the Arkansas Gazette supporting the Amendment is headed, "If You Believe in True Democracy—If You Wish to Guarantee These Fighting Sons and Daughters of Yours and Ours, an Equal Opportunity to Earn When They Return—the Right to Work Regardless of Membership in Some Labor Union, or Lack of It . . ."

The "Freedom to Work Amendment" states that no person shall be denied the right to work because of membership in a labor union, but includes the "joker" that no person may be denied a job even though he refuses to pay his fair share toward the upkeep of an organization that has won him and his fellow employees substantial gains in wages and working conditions.

* * *

The cost of living has risen 43.5% since Jan. 1941, almost double the 23.4% figure of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, said a report signed by R. J. Thomas, pres., UAW-CIO, and Geo. Meany, Sec.-Treas., AFL, and submitted to the President's Committee on the Cost of Living, Wm. H. Davis, Chmn.

* * *

First thing workers will notice about the TENNESSEE REPUBLICAN AGE, *new slick magazine published by the Republican Party at Chattanooga, is the absence of "the bug," label of the typographical union.*

It is not generally known nationally that the Republican Party in Tennessee is little more than a patronage appendage of the Crump Democratic machine. In return for supporting his hand picked Democratic state candidates, Boss Crump permits the Republicans of East Tennessee to name the local small fry. Our present governor Prentice Cooper would have been defeated but for the support of the Republican mountain counties.

99th Fighter Squadron composed of Negro flyers trained at Tuskegee, Ala., part of the "umbrella" protecting our troops on the Anzio beachhead below Rome, has bagged its 14th Nazi plane.

* * *

State Sec. Frank Overturf of the Farmers Union and the 4,000 UAW-CIO workers at the American Aviation plant, Dallas, Tex., have worked out a plan whereby they will be able to buy farm products direct from the farmer without toll to the middle man.

* * *

Workers in Ky., Miss., La., and Va., where the state legislatures meet in 1944 should be on guard for laws limiting the period during which workers may institute suits for recovery of wages and overtime due them. (Ala., Ga. and Florida enacted such laws in 1943.) Also watch for the "joker" of "experience rating" provisions emasculating unemployment insurance laws.

* * *

TWUA Local 280, Lincoln Mills, Huntsville, Ala., has a 100% record of $1.00 per member contributions to the political action fund, and has more registered voters than any other organization in the county.

* * *

An invitation to Eddie Rickenbacker to address the Washington Day Dinner sponsored by the City Council Dinner Club was denounced in a resolution adopted unanimously by the Nashville Trades and Labor Council.

* * *

Corporation profits in 1943 are estimated four times higher before taxes than in the last pre-war year of 1939, and after all taxes have been paid they will have twice as much profits as they had after taxes in 1939.

Profits after all taxes are more than twice as big as the biggest profit year in World War I. The last war made 23,000 new millionaires. How many will this war make?

Wage rates per hour of work have risen only about 32% according to the WLB, and that figure is only for manufacturing industries alone where there have been more increases than elsewhere. Industry's profits are figured after all expenses. If labor's wages were measured the same way, increased living costs would eat up the increases, and then some.

Nat Robertson, in the December AMERICAN FEDERATIONIST.

* * *

The Joint Legislative Committee of Knoxville Area (Tenn.), open to all unions AFL, CIO, Brotherhoods, and Independent, is publishing a printed bulletin. Ralph Hicks is chairman.

1944-Year Of Decision

Full employment, international peace and security depend upon the elections of 1944.

Unless the workers, the farmers—the plain people of America vote in November, 1944, the kind of America for which millions are fighting may be lost.

In 1942 in eight Southern poll tax states, with over 13½ million people of voting age, only 2½ million persons (19%) went to the polls, approximately ½ million fewer persons than voted in the elections of 1940.

The next few months will determine whether 20%, 40% or 60% of Southern citizens will be eligible to vote in November.

There is little time to lose. The time for paying your poll tax already is passed in Alabama.

Pay your poll tax, register, vote!

Here is a summary of the registraiton and voting laws in Southern states.

ALABAMA

Registration: Check with the Board of Registrars of your home county for dates, as they vary throughout the state. You must register in person. Registration is permanent.

Absentee voting: Apply for ballot to Judge of Probate of the county in which you vote. Completed ballot to be in his hands not earlier than twenty days before or later than election day.

Polltax: $1.50 a year (Feb. 1 to Feb. 1), cumulative. Armed forces must pay it.

Residence requirements: Two years in state, one year in county and three months in precinct.

Primaries: May 2.

ARKANSAS

Registration: Not required.

Absentee voting: Apply for ballot to the county clerk of your home county any time up to 10 days before election. Completed ballot to be in hands of county clerk on or before election day. Armed forces same.

Polltax: $1 a year, not cumulative.

Residence requirements: One year in state, six months in Congressional District.

Primaries: July 25.

FLORIDA

Registration: The registration laws are not uniform throughout the State, and it is therefore suggested that you write the supervisor of registration of your home county or town for informatin. If you have ever registered, it may not be necessary for you to register again. Members of the Armed Forces are not required to re-register. United States Government employees may re-register by mail, when necessary, with th supervisor of registration in their home county or town.

Absentee voting: None, except for members of the Armed Forces. They may obtain ballots from the Secretary of State. Completed ballots should be returned at least 10 days before election.

Residence requirements: 1 year in State, 6 months in county, 90 days in precinct.

Primaries: May 2.

GEORGIA

Registration: In person with Tax Collector any time up to May 7 for the November general election. It is now too late to register for the primaries. Members of the armed forces and the Merchant Marine may register any time before May 7 by applying to the tax collectors or tax commissioners of home county for special card provided for this purpse. A relative or friend may also apply.

Absentee voting: Apply for ballot to registrar of home county by registered mail, enclosing return postage. Members of the armed forces do not have to use registered mail or enclose postage; application for ballot may be made by relative or friend.

Polltax: $1 a year, cumulative. Armed forces and Merchant Marine are exempt.

Residence requirements: One year in state, six months in county.

Primaries: July 4.

KENTUCKY

Registration: In person with Circuit Court Clerk of home county only any time up to 59th day before election.

Absentee voting: No provision.

Residence requirements: One year in state, six months in county, 60 days in precinct.

Primaries: August 5.

LOUISIANA

Registration: In person with local parish officials, any time up to 30 days before election. Registration required every four years. At the time you vote, you must have your registration certificate with you.

Absentee voting: State legislation recently enacted permitting members of the Armed Forces to vote. However, no definite information can as yet be gotten as to how this will be done. There is no other absentee voting.

Residence requirements: 2 years in State, 6 months in parish, 60 days in precinct.

Primaries: September 12.

MISSISSIPPI

Registration: In person any time up to 6 months before election, with clerk of circuit court of home county. Members of the Armed Forces register when they apply for absentee ballot.

Absentee voting: A member of the Armed Forces, Merchant Marine or Red Cross—or a person in his or her behalf—may apply for ballot within 60 days before election to the registrar in his home county. Completed ballot is to be sent to a person chosen by such voter, for delivery on election day to the election officials. There are no provisions for absentee voting other than the above.

Polltax: $2 a year, cumulative for two years. Armed Forces are exempted.

Residence requirements: 1 year in State, 6 months in county.

Primaries: July 11.

NORTH CAROLINA

Registration: In person any time up to April 29 for the primary and October 14 for the general election, with the Chairman of the Board of Elections of your home county. You may also register between April 29 and May 13, and October 14 to November 4, with the registrar in your home precinct. Members of the Armed Forces may register either by writing to Chairman of Board of Elections in their home county, or by a member of their family appearing in person for them—all within the above time limits.

(Continued on Page 4.)

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1944-YEAR OF DECISION

(Continued from Page 3.)

Absentee voting: Apply for ballot to the Chairman of the Board of Elections of your home county. Completed ballot must be received by the board at least 2 days before election. No absentee voting in primary.

Residence requirements: 1 year in State, 4 months in county and precinct.

Primaries: May 27 .

OKLAHOMA

Registration: In person before the registrar in your home precinct from June 21 to June 30 for the primary, and from October 18 to October 27 for the November general election. Members of the Armed Forces are not required to register.

Absentee voting: Apply for ballot to Secretary of County Elections Board of your home county. Completed ballot must be taken to the polls on election day by someone in your home precinct.

Residence requirements: 1 year in State, 6 months in county, 30 days in precinct.

Primaries: July 11.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Registration: In person with clerk of home county or city 30 days prior to election.

Absentee voting: Apply for ballot to the secretary of your local voting precinct, enclosing sufficient postage for registry of the ballot to you. Completed ballot must be returned by registered mail to reach your home precinct at least three days before election.

Polltax: $1. Penalties imposed after January 1 (approximately 1% for each month). Women are not liable for polltax.

Residence requirements: 2 years in State, 6 months in county, 60 days in precinct.

Primaries: August 29.

TENNESSEE

Registration: July 11, 12 and 13; October 16, 17 and 18, either in person or by mail. If by mail, write to Chairman or Secretary of Election Commission of your home county, requesting registration certificate and affidavit. This request must be mailed by registered mail, enclosing sufficient postage for return to you by registered mail. The registration certificate and affidavit must reach registration officials within the above periods.

Absentee voting: Apply for ballot to the chairman of your own political party, giving registration certificate number and polltax receipt number, enclosing sufficient postage for return to you by registered mail (18 or 21 cents). Completed ballot must reach election officials on or before election day.

Polltax: $2.

Residence requirements: 1 year in State, 6 months in county.

Primaries: August 3.

TEXAS

Registration: None required.

Absentee voting: Apply for ballot to clerk of your home county 20 to 3 days before each election, enclosing receipt for polltax or exemption certificate, and 15 cents postage. Completed ballot must be received by the clerk or recorder so that it can be turned over to the election judge on or before election day.

Polltax: $1.75. If you did not pay your polltax by January 31, 1944, you will not be eligible to vote in 1944.

Residence requirements: 1 year in State, 6 months in county and precinct.

Primaries: July 22. This may be changed.

VIRGINIA

Registration: In person any time up to primary day or 30 days before November general election, with registrar of home precinct, except Roanoke and Lynchburg, where there is one central registration point.

Absentee voting: Apply for ballot to registrar of home precinct, enclosing sufficient postage for registered mail, not more than 60 nor less than 5 days before election. Completed ballot must be returned to the registrar by registered mail so as to be received by him at least 3 days before election.

Polltax: $1.50, cumulative for 3 years. Payment to be made at least 6 months before election.

Residence requirements: 1 year in State, 6 months in county, city or town, 30 days in precinct.

Primaries: August 1.

LETTERS

Patriot

To the Editor:

". . . It (THE PATRIOT) is one of the most encouraging things that come to my desk. My sentiments are pretty well expressed by Professor Morrison's letter in your February issue, so I will just "associate myself" with it, as the diplomatists say. More strength to your arm!

EDWARD O. SISSOM.
Professor Emeritus, Reed College.
Carmel, Calif.

Soldiers Vote

We thank the many readers who responded to our appeal for letters to Rep. Worley re: the soldiers' vote bill. Mr. Edward M. Winston of Chicago sends us a copy of his letter, from which we quote: "It is perhaps pertinent to suggest to you that the refusal to permit the service people to vote may win the coming election for the Republican Party but it will be pretty certain to lose later ones. Very probably it may prove political suicide precisely as the attitude of the Whig Party, at the time of the Lincoln-Douglas debates, was a large factor in causing its disappearance in favor of the Republican Party."

* * *

Poll Tax

To the Editor:

I am glad to send my endorsement of the anti-poll tax campaign which you are carrying on. This is a good cause and I hope that we can win.

H. SHELTON SMITH,
Durham, N. C.
Professor of Christian Ethics, The Divinity School, Duke University.

* * *

Patriot

To the Editor:

Been meaning to write you to say that we get a lot from the PATRIOT. I frequently feel out of touch with what is going on in the South and how national issues effect the area. I like especially the "Trends" column.

RUTH CUTLER.
Washington, D. C.

* * *

Sales Tax

LESTER E. TRAINOR, of Weatherby, Mo., sends us some excellent literature that he has used in his crusade against the sales tax. The sales tax is a device used by the corporation stooges in state and local government to transfer the cost of government from the rich to the poor. Witness the record of Senator George of Georgia, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. Instead of increased taxes on corporations which he claims are already too heavily taxed, and a $25,000 net limitation on salaries, he favors a federal sales tax to further grind down the faces of the poor.

* * *

States' Rights

To the Editor:

The War Between the States was over in 1865, but we still believe in States' Rights. A Federal dictum regarding the Poll Tax Law is—to our way of thinking—transgressing—again—upon one of the few tenets left to us—States' Rights.

MRS. ED BARNSBACK.
Hot Springs, Ark.

The Southern PATRIOT

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The Little Man Can Win If - He Will Vote

The farmer, the worker and the little guy is not defeated in elections by his enemies.

The little man defeats himself by not voting.

In 1942 about 28,000,000 Americans voted, 41% of the potential number of voters. In 1940 almost 50,000,000 persons voted, 71% of the total potential vote.

In terms of the total population, 25% voted in 1942 as against 43% in 1940.

In the 8 Southern poll tax states 19% of the potential voters who took part in the 1942 primaries (6% in elections); and 22% of the potential voters voted in the 1942 primaries (18% in the elections).

In terms of the total population of the 8 poll tax states, 11% voted in the 1942 primaries (3% in the elections); and 12% in the 1942 primaries (10% in the elections).

The Whole Truth

Secretary Stimson made a great point of the fact that in one week in January 22 strikes occurred with a loss of 135,000 man-days. The fact was not mentioned that during the same week 200 million man-days were worked. According to Secretary Perkins, the no-strike pledge of labor was kept at a rate of better than 99.8% during 1943.

* * *

Another set of facts are not played up in the press. During last year 7,000 more persons were killed in wartime industry than in battle. Over 80,000 were killed and 7,000,000 injured on the production front.

Time lost because of industrial accidents was equivalent to our entire working force taking a two weeks' holiday. Lost worktime from on-the-job accidents totalled 450,000,000 man-days, enough to have built 7,500 average size merchant ships.

Damage and destruction of equipment in workers' accidents, according to an OWI report, "far exceeds the value of American cargoes that have been sunk." The National Safety Council estimates that in addition to the physical loss to workers themselves, occupational accidents caused a total economic loss of $2,300,000,000 in 1942. Direct losses in wages, medical expense and insurance amounted to $1,000,000,000.

Most startling of all—OWI reports that nine-tenths of these accidents could be prevented, despite wartime strains on machinery and worker fatigue from long hours.

* * *

No one, least of all the unions, condone strikes. But the failure to tell the whole story, the glossing over or suppression of some of the facts, lead to the inescapable conclusion that many people are more concerned with driving a wedge between our soldiers and workers than they are with the production of war materials, national unity, and winning the war against Fascism.

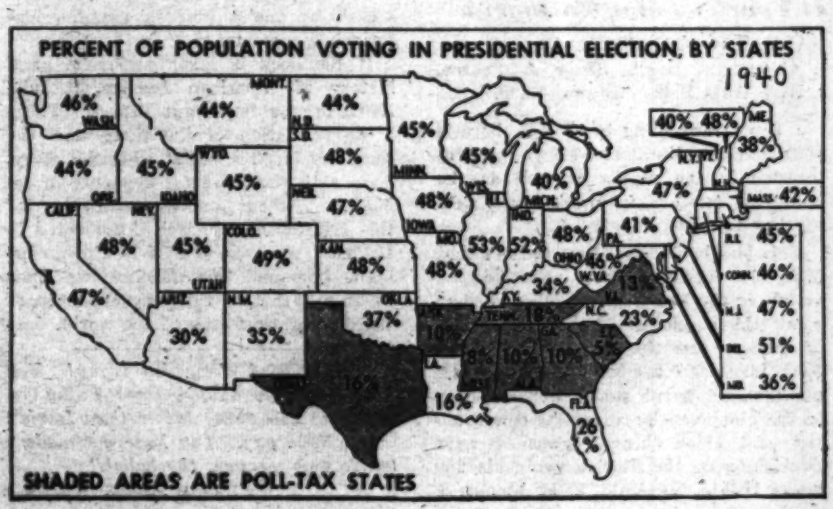
The South Is Humiliated

"A new low in demagoguery" is the way TIME magazine characterized Mississippi Congressman John Rankin's outburst, in which he referred to Walter Winchell as "the little kike."

In his fight against a genuine soldier vote bill, Rankin can beat his breast and bleat as much as he pleases about Jews, Communists, White Supremacy, and States Rights, but the South of Jefferson, Jackson and Wilson is humiliated, not hoodwinked by such Hitler-like tactics.

Two million or more Southern soldiers will remember that more than anyone else they have Rankin to thank for the fact that Congress has not passed a bill permitting them to share, under federal sanctions, in the democracy for which they are fighting and dying.

There are brave and good men in Congress. Let it be said to their shame that not one stood to answer this fascist speech. Instead, the House rose and applauded.



BOOKS IN BRIEF

Georgia Town

STRANGE FRUIT. By LILLIAN SMITH. Reynal & Hitchcock, New York, 1944. 371 pp. $2.75.

Having picked up this first novel by the talented young co-editor of THE SOUTH TODAY, it could not be put aside until the last page had been turned. No doubt you will have the same experience with this powerful story based on the great Southern paradox of a society that professes to believe in Democracy and universal brotherhood, but confines a third of its citizens to the straight-jacket of a servant class.

With a skill that marks the author as one of the South's most gifted writers, Miss Smith analyses the frustration, psychological confusion and spiritual paralysis which such a situation engenders in a typical group of middle class representatives of the town, white and colored.

Tracy Deen is enamoured of a cultured and sensitive creature, Nonnie, daughter of the leading Negro family of a small Georgia town. Returning from World War I, he attempts to break through the ironclad conventions to maintain his clandestine relationship. Eventually he succumbs to pressure of family, church and established mores. The story moves with dramatic intensity to a tragic climax.

Miss Smith is concerned with consequences rather than determinative forces, however, we wish that she had given more attention to basic economic factors, which more than anything else contribute to an understanding of this problem of race, and point the way to its solution.

If Your're Going To Florida

PALMETTO COUNTRY. By STETSON KENNEDY. Duell, Sloan & Pearce. New York, 1942. 340 pp. $3.00.

If you are going to Florida, here is your guide book—that is—if you are interested in the people as well as the historical monuments and surface data of that fabulous country.

This is a book about the crackers that Marjorie Rawlings has portrayed so vividly in the Yearling and other stories; about the conchs and fisherfolk, 75,000 of them swarm the shores of Florida's 5,000 miles of coast line; about the turpentine and naval stores workers deep in the piney woods; about the cow country and cattle kings—"ranches were flourishing on the Florida peninsula 250 years before the Wild West became a cattle domain"—about the Greek spongers of Tarpon Springs, and the Cuban and Spanish cigar workers of Tampa; about the vast Negro population under slavery, reconstruction and freedom. Folk songs and ballads are a fruitful source through which to know a people, and the book is filled with them. A large part of the book is taken up with stories told by the people themselves.

The chapter on the cigar industry of Key West and Tampa is a valuable addition to labor history.

This is the eighth of the American Folkway books edited by Erskine Caldwell.

Tobacco Idyll

THE OUTSIDE LEAF. By BEN FIELD. Reynald & Hitchcock, New York. 237 pp. $2.50.

A Jewish family on a Connecticut tobacco farm makes an unusual setting for a novel. Young Moe Israel swears he will make a success of tobacco where his bookish father had failed.

Moe's great strength and determination are more than a match for all the multiple hazards of tobacco growing. He handles successfully the problems of weather, soil and labor, all of his problems—that is, except the red-haired Mary, and that is the key to an entirely successful and beautifully told story.

American Fascists

SEE WHAT I MEAN? By LEWIS BROWNE. Random House, New York. 245 pp. $2.50.

Clem Smullet, a thoroughly unscrupulous press agent and member of the inner circle of THE CRUSADE, tells the inside story of this Los Angeles group of native fascists. Although told in fiction form, the story is based on original research by the author in genuine historical documents.

If the book is taken seriously, as a history of American fascism, it falls short in one important aspect. There is no indication of the tieup that the small-fry fascists, described in this story, have with the powerful elements in society. Without an understanding of this relationship, so well documented in UNDER COVER, one is at a loss to understand how and why fascism has come to be a threat to the very existence of the democratic forces of the world.

"Be of good cheer, little guy! You have licked the giants before. Today you have got something better than David's sling, little guy. You have got modern men's new weapon, the ballot."

WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE.

New Light On Frank Case

I CAN GO HOME AGAIN. By ARTHUR G. POWELL. University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, 1943. 301 pp. $3.00.

This book of memoires by a distinguished Georgia jurist throws sensational new light on the Frank case that shook the South and the Nation some thirty years ago.

Leo Frank, a young Jew, was charged with the murder of Mary Phagan, of Marietta, Ga. The girl worked in an Atlanta pencil factory where Frank served as foreman.

The trial judge, Leonard S. Roan, told Judge Powell "that this man's innocence is proved to a mathematical certainty." Yet he refused a new trial.

Governor Slaton commuted the sentence to life imprisonment and Frank was taken to the penitentiary at Milledgeville. A mob took him from there to Marietta and lynched him.

"I am one of the few people," writes Judge Powell, "who know that Leo Frank was innocent of the crime for which he was convicted and lynched. Subsequent to the trial, and after his conviction had been affirmed by the Supreme Court, I learned who killed Mary Phagan, but the information came to me in such a way that, though I wish I could do so, I can never reveal it so long as certain persons are alive."

In the sordid lynch story, the courageous action of Governor Slaton stands out in bold relief, recalling the parallel action of Governor Altgeld of Illinois in the famous "Haymarket Riot" cases of 1886.

The Governor was nearing the end of his second term. He could have handed this "hot potato" over to his successor by granting a reprieve. Popular, possessed of sufficient wealth to enable him to satisfy his political ambition, he knew that his career was ended unless Frank was hanged.

A mob of 3,000 persons milled around the road in front of the Governor's house. He had received 1,000 and his wife 100 letters saying that one or both of them would be killed and their house burned if he commuted the sentence.

"I worked downstairs in my library," the Governor told Judge Powell some years later, "preparing a statement and drawing the order. When I went upstairs, Sallie was waiting for me. She asked me, 'Have you reached a decision?' 'Yes,' I said. 'It may mean my death or worse, but I have ordered the sentence commuted.' She kissed me and said, 'I would rather be the widow of a brave and honorable man than the wife of a coward.'"

The Hobbs Bastile Bill

Alabama's Sam Hobbs has come forward with another of his anti-labor bills, H.R. 3690, with the misleading title, "a bill to safeguard the admission of evidence in certain cases."*

The bill reads:

"No failure to observe the requirement of law as to time within which a person under arrest must be brought before a magistrate, commissioner, or court, shall render inadmissible any evidence that is otherwise admissible."

The intent of this bill is to circumvent three decisions of the United States Supreme Court, the Ward, McNabb and Anderson cases, outlawing testimony secured through third degree methods.

The Anderson case involved Dick Anderson and some 21 members of the Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers Union engaged in a bitter organizing campaign in the copper basin of Southeastern Tennessee. The union men were rounded up by the FBI in collaboration with company guards, herded into the company YMCA building, held incommunicado, and for several days "subjected to prolonged questioning in the hostile atmosphere of a company dominated mining town."

Third Degree Outlawed

In the past the courts have judged the validity of testimony according to its voluntariness. The decisions in question establish a more objective test, namely, whether or not the arresting officer has taken his prisoner promptly before a judicial officer for commitment. The decisions definitely exclude "confessions extorted from ignorant persons . . . who have been unlawfully held incommunicado without advice of friends or counsel. . . ."

The Court held that such confessions violate the Constitutional guarantee that men would not be deprived of liberty without "due process of law."

George F. Addes, Intl. Sec'y-Treas. of the United Automobile Workers, summed up labor's opposition to the Hobbs "Bastile Bill" as follows: the bill would—

"once again let the police seize workers in their homes, hold them incommunicado for days, grill them, sweat them, and then convict them in court on the evidence thus unconstitutionally procured."

H.R. 3690 was reported out by the Weaver subcommittee and now awaits action by the full House Judiciary Committee, Rep. Hatton W. Summers, Texas, Chmn.

*For a fuller discussion of this bill consult the LAWYERS GUILD REVIEW, Vol. 3, No. 5, Dec. 1943. 1643 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D. C.

HOW TO MANAGE YOUR REGISTRATION CAMPAIGN

The CIO Political Action Committee has issued a set of 9 rules to guide unions in their drive to get their members registered. While written for local unions, they apply equally well to all organizations. Church groups, women's societies, League of Women Voters, civic groups can use them to good advantage.

1—Establish a registration committee in each plant, using either shop stewards or other members to cover every department on every shift.

2—Secure complete membership lists with correct addresses.

3—Make two file cards for each member to contain name, address, local union, county, ward, election district or precinct and whether registered or not registered.

4—One card to county, city or appropriate political action committee. Second card filed in local union registration file.

5—Ward and precinct leaders to call meetings to complete registration in their areas.

6—Check local union file cards against registration lists.

7—Follow up non-registered members by advising where, when and how to register.

8—Make registration convenient to extent of locality regulations.

9—Give awards to most successful registration committees.

The Fla. State CIO Council meeting in Jacksonville Feb. 12 passed unanimously a resolution urging a 4th term for President Roosevelt, supported the President's subsidy and price control program, urged passage of anti-poll tax and anti-lynching laws, and called for a comprehensive program for aiding returning war veterans.

Has The Klan Reformed?

In 1939 the Imperial Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan announced that he was opposed to intimidation in any form, including parades through Negro districts. In 1940 he issued an edict to the Invisible Empire, banning the use of masks both in public and in private, and outlawing the burning of fiery crosses except in rituals.

Were these proclamations sincere, and have they been carried out? Anyone having information on the subject is urged to send in the details.

North Carolina Farm Cooperative

The Farmer's Federation Cooperative of Nashville, N. C., recently celebrated its 23rd birthday. Total sales are running at a rate of about $3,500,000 per year. More than $3,000,000 of this goes back to the farmer members. There is no profit gained by anyone but the farmers. After sales expenses are paid, profits are returned as saving dividends as in all cooperative enterprises, excepting only such sums as the members vote for education in cooperative techniques and for improvement experiments. Thus all the profits that ordinarily go to the middleman return to the producer. On the average the American farmer has been receiving for his produce about one-half what the consumer pays for it.

22 Warehouses

A broad program for improvement in methods of farming, marketing and stock breeding is carried on. There are 22 warehouses scattered over Western North Carolina where produce is gathered for shipment and sale, and where material and farm machinery is stored.

1,000,000 Baby Chicks Per Year

An example of what these North Carolina farmers are doing for themselves under the able and inspiring leadership of Rev. James G. K. McClure, can be found in their program of education in the rearing of chickens. No single "side line" can be made more profitable to the mountain or small farm operator, providing it is done scientifically and with expert cooperative marketing. The Federation has provided incubators with a total capacity of close to a half million eggs and every egg that goes into them must be from a hen with a record of at least 250 eggs a year. Out of them come, in round numbers, more than 1,000,000 baby chicks per year. Broilers are the fastest growing meat producers known, and selected eggs bring the highest prices. One hundred and twelve producers under this program averaged sales of $135 per month in 1943.

Religious Motivation

Mr. McClure came to the mountains a quarter of a century ago, a victim of tuberculosis. As a minister, he found churches poor because of the low incomes of the members. His interest is religious rather than economic, but finding that poor incomes make for poor homes, schools and churches, he tackled the church problem through farmer cooperation. It is still religious in its motivation. The Lord's Acre plan, developed by the Federation, now helping 3,000,300 churches, is a symbol of this fact.

ALVA W. TAYLOR.